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Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Letter dated 3 October 1998 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the United Nations

I have the honour to transmit, enclosed herewith, a note verbale from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the embassy of the Republic of Albania in Belgrade, dated 3 October 1998, protesting the most recent terrorist act committed from the territory of the Republic of Albania on 2 October 1998.

I would appreciate it if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 155, entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism".

(*Signed*) Vladislav **Jovanović**
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent
Mission of the Federal Republic of
Yugoslavia to the United Nations

98-29801 (E) 121098

Annex

Note verbale of 3 October 1998 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the embassy of the Republic of Albania in Belgrade

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia presents its compliments to the embassy of the Republic of Albania and, in the wake of the latest aggressive act, hereby reiterates the strongest protest.

On 2 October 1998, at 4.15 p.m., a subversive terrorist group, numbering over 50 terrorists, carried out an attack from the territory of the Republic of Albania, near borderstone D-7, against the border post of "Gorozup" from the direction of the Albanian border post of "Bogaj" and the hamlet of Shalgin, the village of Moric. The attack lasted about one hour. One part of the group crossed into the territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia between 50 and 100 metres deep, while the other part opened fire from small-arm automatic weapons from the Albanian border post of "Bogaj". One border guard, a soldier of the army of Yugoslavia, was killed in the attack. The incident has been reported to the local joint commission for sector 5.

In this way, another border incident has been committed from the Albanian side pursuant to article 2, paragraph 1, under "a" and "d" of the agreement between the Governments of the two countries on measures for the prevention and resolution of incidents at the Yugoslav-Albanian border, concluded at Tirana on 27 June 1978.

The special gravity of the incident lies in the fact that yet another soldier of the army of Yugoslavia has lost his life, that an armed attack has been carried out on the organs securing the State border and the border post and that, during the entire attack, the activities were carried out from the territory of the Republic of Albania. This latest act of aggressive provocation against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia constitutes a continuity with former incidents and demonstrates that the Albanian side continues to take no measures to remove the causes leading to border incidents. This has unforeseeable consequences for the overall security of the Yugoslav-Albanian border and constitutes a flagrant violation of the basic principles of international relations. It is therefore to be concluded that terrorist groups may act unperturbed and enjoy hospitality in Albania, probably believing that the ongoing anti-Yugoslav campaign will prevent the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and its organs from reacting appropriately and resolutely. In that connection, the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs recalls that tolerance of, and support for, terrorism and its well-known protagonists represent not only an immediate threat to peace and security of all States in the region, but are also detrimental for Albania itself in more ways than one.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs calls on the Government of the Republic of Albania once again to fulfil its international obligations scrupulously, to carry out an urgent investigation and punish the perpetrators, and to finally take the necessary measures to prevent terrorism and other aggressive acts from being carried out from its territory.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the embassy of the Republic of Albania the assurances of its highest consideration.